Printed from
THE TIMES OF INDIA

Kolkata house of horror: Dey family tale more twisted than you think

TNN | Mar 1, 2025, 09.39 AM IST

NEW DELHI: Fourteen-year-old Pratip Dey, who survived a fatal car crash on Kolkata's EM Bypass on February 19, has alleged that his mother, Sudeshna, and aunt, Romi, were murdered after backing out of a planned family suicide.

His father, Pranay Dey, and uncle, Prasun Dey—who also survived the crash—went through with their plan and ended their lives by slashing their wrists.

Source URL: https___timesofindia.indiatimes.com_city_kolkata_kolkata-house-of-horror-dey-family-tale-more-twisted-than-you-think_articleshow_118618575.cms

BROTHERS TOOK LOANS WORTH CRORES, HAD MO

Postmortem Findings

- **SUDESHNA DEY** (39), wife of Pranay | Injuries on both wrists, single cut on throat. **Death due to ante-mortem injuries**
- **ROMI DEY** (44), wife of Prasun | Injuries on both wrists, single cut in throat. **Death due to ante-mortem injuries**
- **PRIYAMVADA DEY** (14), daughter of Prasun & Romi | Bruises on chest, legs, lips, injury to back of head. Bluish/purple skin. Intestinal bleeding. Partly digested food, yellowish-white granules with medicinal smell in stomach. **Death due to poisoning**

A steady stream of onlookers trooped down to the Deys's Tangra residence all through Thursday

What Brot Told Police

- The entir consumed | **with sleepi** Monday ev suicide, but the desired
- Their **wiv the suicide**

State Of T

- The brot **loans worth** 6 different and financi
- Their fou **in Tangra w**

Pratip shared his horrifying account with West Bengal Commission for Protection of Child Rights (WBCPCR) adviser Ananya Chakraborti, revealing that the two brothers initially attempted suicide by consuming *payesh* laced with sedatives on February 17.

When that failed, they planned to jump from the roof of their four-storey home. However, Sudeshna and Romi refused, and according to Pratip, they were killed as a result.
The teenager also alleged that his uncle, following his father's orders, attempted to smother him with a pillow. He survived by holding his breath—using "yoga techniques"—and playing dead.

His uncle eventually removed the pillow to check for signs of life, and when he found none, he assumed Pratip was dead and left the room.

After escaping death, Pratip discovered his cousin Priyamvada's body. She was frothing at the mouth, the only suspected victim of the sedative-laced *payesh*. Elsewhere in the house, he found his mother and aunt lifeless.

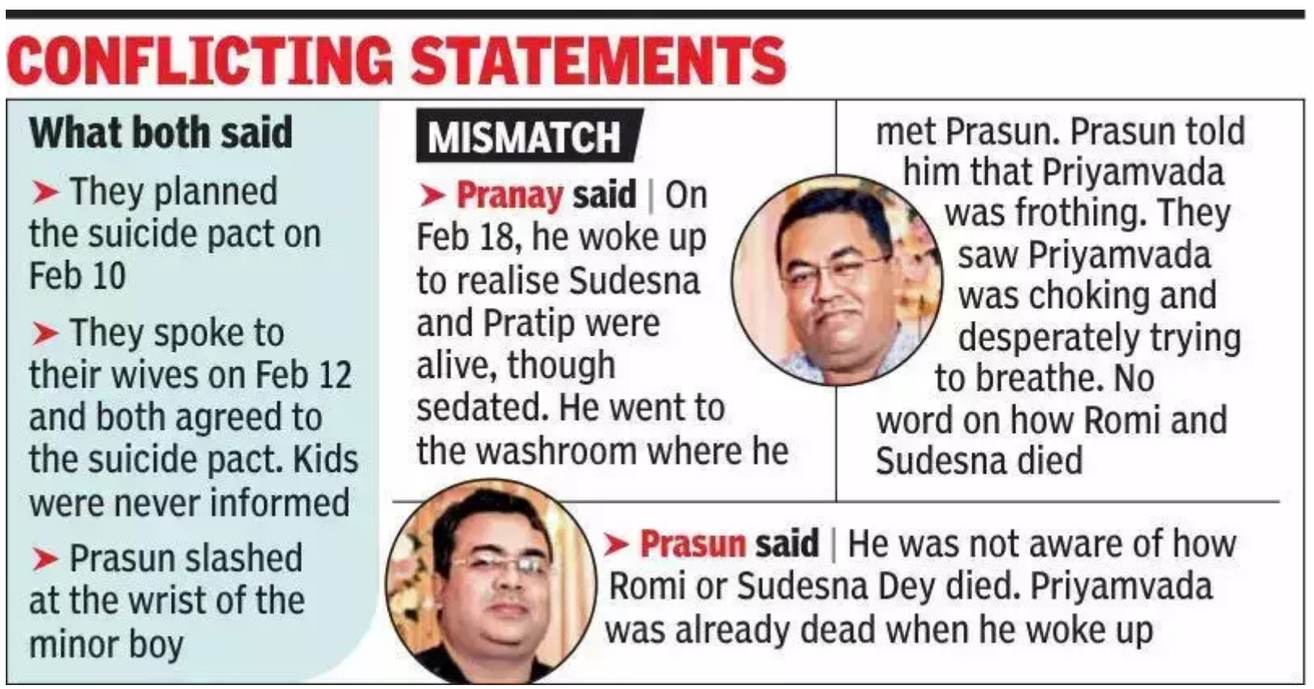
The teenager later witnessed his father and uncle preparing to die and was convinced to join them. "When we asked him why, he said all his loved ones were gone, so what was the point of living?" Chakraborti recounted.

Meanwhile, police at Lalbazar have received postmortem reports, which contradict Prasun's claims that Sudeshna and Romi died by suicide.

The reports indicate that the cuts on their wrists were not self-inflicted. "Someone else slashed their wrists," a senior officer said. Investigators are now analyzing inconsistencies in the survivors' statements to piece together the chilling sequence of events.

Conflicting statements

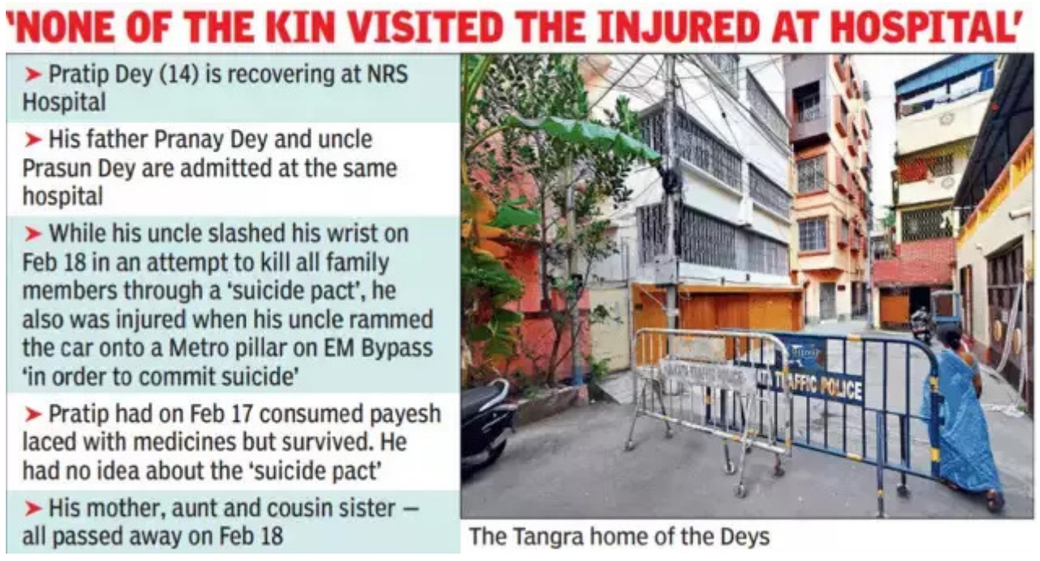
The Dey brothers from Tangra provided consistent accounts regarding key aspects of their suicide pact—from its inception on February 10 to their final plan of staging a fatal accident in the early hours of February 19.


CONFLICTING STATEMENTS
What both said
➤ They planned the suicide pact on Feb 10
➤ They spoke to their wives on Feb 12 and both agreed to the suicide pact. Kids were never informed
➤ Prasun slashed at the wrist of the minor boy
MISMATCH
➤ Pranay said | On Feb 18, he woke up to realise Sudesna and Pratip were alive, though sedated. He went to the washroom where he met Prasun. Prasun told him that Priyamvada was frothing. They saw Priyamvada was choking and desperately trying to breathe. No word on how Romi and Sudesna died
➤ Prasun said | He was not aware of how Romi or Sudesna Dey died. Priyamvada was already dead when he woke up

However, their statements diverged when detailing the events of the morning of February 18, when the three women in the house were discovered dead, with post-mortem findings pointing to murder.

‘No relative willing to take responsibility of teen survivor'

Pratip, life took a devastating turn overnight. Until February 17, he was focused on preparing for his final exams.


'NONE OF THE KIN VISITED THE INJURED AT HOSPITAL'
➤ Pratip Dey (14) is recovering at NRS Hospital
➤ His father Pranay Dey and uncle Prasun Dey are admitted at the same hospital
➤ While his uncle slashed his wrist on Feb 18 in an attempt to kill all family members through a ‘suicide pact’, he also was injured when his uncle rammed the car onto a Metro pillar on EM Bypass ‘in order to commit suicide’
➤ Pratip had on Feb 17 consumed payesh laced with medicines but survived. He had no idea about the ‘suicide pact’
➤ His mother, aunt and cousin sister — all passed away on Feb 18
TRAFFIC POLICE
The Tangra home of the Deys

Now, over a week after losing his mother and two other family members, his future is hanging in uncertainty.

For the police, the case presents a complex challenge. Legal hurdles and practical constraints have left them uncertain about where Pratip will go once discharged. No relatives have reportedly visited him at the hospital.

Authorities had initially considered rehabilitating him with an uncle, but progress has been slow. According to Lalbazar officials, no formal steps have yet been taken to place him in a shelter home.

“Once his father, Pranay, and uncle, Prasun, recover, we will assess his condition. The moment they are arrested, we must find a suitable option for the minor,” an officer said.

'I slashed my wife’s and sister-in-law’s wrists', says younger brother

Prasun Dey, the younger of the two brothers involved in the alleged "suicide pact" that surfaced after a car crash on February 19, has told police that he was the one who slit the wrists of his wife, Romi, and sister-in-law, Sudeshna.

However, he insists he had no role in the death of his daughter, Priyamvada.